

REMARKS

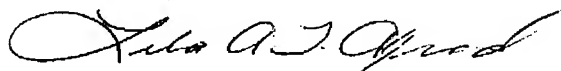
The present application relates to inbred maize line PH7JD. Claims 2-39 have been canceled. Applicants acknowledge the addition of claims 40-42, which are the originally filed claims 2, 9 and 10 in the parent case, U.S. Serial No. 09/759,755 filed on January 12, 2001, being re-introduced in this continuation application. Claims 41 and 42, in the form presented, were rejected in previous Office Actions on July 30, 2002 and January 13, 2003. Claim 40, in the form presented, was previously allowed in the Office Action of January 13, 2003. Therefore the new claims do not add new matter, as there is support for the claims in the originally filed specification. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and approval of the changes is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that this Preliminary Amendment will not unduly interfere with the preparation of the first Office Action, and reconsideration is respectfully requested. If it is felt that it would aid in prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number indicated to discuss any outstanding issues.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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